THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 11th March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Manufacture of heavy chemicals.

* 98 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether applications have been received from individuals or companies for starting manufacture of heavy chemicals such as soda ash, caustic soda, etc.;

(b) whether the Government have examined the prospects of these industries in the light of recommendations of the panel on heavy chemicals;

(c) whether it is a fact that the short supply of these chemicals is so acute that establishments using these chemicals in manufacturing processes are either forced to close down the factories or reduce production;

(d) what steps the Government propose to take to accelerate the progress of these industries;

(e) whether the policy of nationalization is to be applied to the production of these chemicals; and

(f) how it is to be enforced?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The final report of the panel has not yet been received.

" (c) Government are not aware of the closure of any factory for this reason, though in some cases, production may have gone down.

" (d) to (f) These questions are under consideration and an early announcement of the decisions will be made."

Re-employment of retired persons.

* 99 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to answer to question No. 24 answered on the 9th September 1946, whether heads of departments have been instructed not to send up proposals either for re-employment of those who have retired or recommend the extension of service of those who are due to retire;